



Visit the Indiana State Library

Everyone is welcome to visit the Library! Staff are available to assist patrons with their research and questions. Librarians with expertise in a variety of fields are on hand to provide guidance and information.

Arrange for a class, club, department, or organization to visit the Library. With advanced notice, staff can provide tours geared toward the research needs of the group and assist the group in preparing for a research visit.

To arrange a tour or research visit for a group call 317-232-3689.

Genealogy Collection
Indiana State Library
140 N. Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2296

Phone: 317-232-3689

TDD: 317-232-7763

www.library.IN.gov

Email from Web page: Ask-a-Librarian

Overview of the Genealogy Collection



www.library.IN.gov

**Indiana
State Library**

Discover Your Roots at the Indiana State Library

The Indiana State Library's Genealogy Collection houses one of the major genealogy and local history collections in the Midwest. The emphasis of the collection is on Indiana and the regions from which Indiana was settled, including New England, the Atlantic Seaboard, and the Upland South. All states are represented in the collections, whether through printed materials, federal census records, or the growing collection of CD-ROM databases.

The collection includes numerous published and unpublished items (family histories, indexes to records, how-to books, cemetery transcriptions, family history magazines and more) as well as microfilmed records and computer databases. Resources for Native American and African-American family history research are also available. All materials are for reference use only. The printed collections, electronic resources, and Genealogy Collection reference desk are located on the first floor. The books and printed materials are available for browsing by patrons.

The genealogy microfilm and microfiche collections and printed census indexes are located on the second floor, near the Indiana Collection's newspapers on microfilm. Resources from the Indiana Collection and in the History Reference Room provide family history researchers with easy access to additional resources in Indiana and American history and biography.

The Genealogy Collection of the Indiana State Library

Indiana State Library
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2296
www.library.in.gov
(317) 232-3689

The Indiana State Library is located at 140 North Senate Avenue, on the southwest corner of Ohio Street and Senate Avenue in downtown Indianapolis. The Ohio Street entrance to the building provides the most direct access to the Genealogy Collection.

Parking may be available at meters or in the Senate Avenue Parking Garage. For up-to-date parking information, please call the Library or visit our Website.

For your convenience, vending machines and tables for eating are located on the first floor.

Computer Resources

In addition to online subscription databases (including **Ancestry Library Edition**, **HeritageQuest Online**, and **New England Ancestors.org** produced by the New England Historic Genealogical Society), the genealogy electronic collection includes **Family TreeMaker**, **Generations Archives**, **Family Search** (LDS) and hundreds more CD-ROM databases. Included are census indexes & records and the WPA Indiana Vital Records collection.

Will, Probate, and Deed Records

The Genealogy Collection has print indexes or abstracts and/or microfilm copies of will, probate, and deed records for some Indiana counties for certain years. A complete listing of holdings is available at the Library.

Catalogs and Special Files

The card catalog located in the first floor Reading Room contains books cataloged prior to 1976, microforms and pamphlets. The catalog is arranged by subject. The online catalog, which includes books cataloged after 1976, is available via the Library’s homepage. Some special index files in the Genealogy Collection include **Indiana DAR Bible Records**, the **Heraldry File** and the **Index to Blacks, Indians, and Mulattoes in the Indiana 1880 Census**.

Federal Census Records

Federal census records on microfilm are available for all existing states for the years 1790 through 1880 and 1930. For 1900 through 1930, select states are held, including Indiana. Many of the states that are not available on microfilm in the Genealogy Collection are available online through subscription databases such as **Ancestry Library Edition** and **HeritageQuest Online**.

Military Records

Several sources are available on microfilm including the **Index to the General Pension Files 1861-1934**, **Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty Land Warrants** and **Indiana World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918**.

Vital Records

Indiana began recording births and deaths in 1882; marriages were recorded from the formation of the county. The WPA Indexes, which index births, deaths and marriages in 67 of Indiana’s 92 counties are available in print and on CD-ROM. Vital record indexes for the counties that were not done by the WPA may be in the collection.

The Genealogy Collection has the Indiana statewide marriage index from 1958-2000. Microfilm copies of many Indiana county marriage records are available, for various years. The Genealogy Collection has some vital record indexes for other states, most notably Kentucky.

Cemetery & Church Records

The Genealogy Collection has tombstone inscriptions for most Indiana cemeteries. **The Indiana Cemetery Locator File**, available on the Library’s homepage, lists the call numbers of books and pamphlets in the collection. The Genealogy Collection also has some church histories and records in print and on microfilm.

Passenger Lists

The Genealogy Collection has several print indexes to passenger lists including Filby’s **Passenger and Immigration Lists Index** and **Germans to America**. The Library holds other books in the **... to America** series also. Passenger lists are available, on microfilm, for certain ports & dates.

Naturalization Records

The Genealogy Collection has a statewide index to the final orders and microfilm copies of some Indiana counties’ naturalization records.

Gifts

Help Us Preserve Our Past for Future Generations!

Contributions of family histories, books or money are deeply appreciated and are tax deductible. While Library staff cannot appraise donations of books or papers for tax purposes, staff can recommend appraisers in central Indiana who can provide you with this service.

Information by Mail and E-mail

Although unable to undertake extensive research, staff will answer briefly stated, specific questions about Indiana people or research.

Letters may be sent to the Genealogy Collection at the address above. On the Web, use our “Ask a Librarian” service to get answers to your questions. Be sure to include your postal address.